

SHIPPING NEWS FROM ALL PARTS OF THE WORLD

COSTA RICA SEIZES PANAMA VILLAGE

Captures Guabito, Near Bocas de Toro, Whither Defenders Retire.

18 DEAD, MANY WOUNDED

Pacific Fleet at Hand; Costa Rica Appeals to League, Panama to U. S.

By the Associated Press.
SAN JUAN DEL SUR, Nicaragua, March 4.—Guabito, lying a short distance to the northwest of Bocas del Toro, in Panama, was captured by Costa Rican forces at 5 o'clock this morning. The Panamanians retired toward Bocas del Toro, leaving behind eighteen dead and many wounded.

The Costa Ricans have occupied the Almirante Railroad and now are besieging Ciudad de Almirante.

Guabito, which is near the Atlantic coast side of the Isthmus of Panama, was taken by the Costa Ricans after several hours of fighting.

By the Associated Press.

PANAMA March 4.—After capturing the town of Guabito the Costa Ricans proceeded toward Almirante, about twenty-five miles to the southeast.

American-owned banana plantations, criss-crossed by a system of railways, extend from the Costa Rican side of the Isthmus in the other direction into Costa Rica. Daily losses are being reported by the plantation owners in consequence of the military operations, and thousands of laborers have left the region.

Panama officials have shown much interest in a message from San Jose stating that Costa Rica has decided to renounce its claim to the Isthmus of Panama. The question has been raised as to the attitude of the United States in this contingency, with respect to the Monroe Doctrine.

Almirante is included in the territory which Panama had been holding under status quo while the frontier lines have remained undecided. It is likely that the Pacific coast, has been claimed by the Costa Ricans, who have disputed Panamanian possession before all arbitration courts.

Unconfirmed reports were spread here this morning that United States naval forces were ready to proceed to Coto and Almirante. It was believed that it was stated to order to reach such a movement had been received. The situation prevailed, however, that United States naval forces soon would move, probably for the purpose of protecting North American interests in the zone of hostilities.

Military preparations for war against Panama are being rushed by the Government of Costa Rica. It is said in newspapers reaching this city from San Jose. Predictions made that 20,000 Costa Rican soldiers will be under arms before the end of the present week, and it is stated the steamship Roxanna is ready to sail from Punta Arenas to Callao Dulce, on the western end of the frontier, with 1,000 soldiers, ten cannon and fifteen machine guns.

Detachments of troops numbering 1,500 are declared to be on the Costa Rica side, ready to capture Bocas del Toro, and then march upon David, capital of the province of Chiriqui. This advance, according to the newspapers, was to begin March 1, but information received here would seem to indicate that it had not begun.

SAN SALVADOR, Republic of Salvador, March 4.—Six warships and twelve hydroplanes of the United States Pacific fleet have arrived at Puntarenas, Costa Rica, according to a dispatch received here.

SAN JOSE, Costa Rica, March 4 (de-
ferred).—Costa Rica will rely upon a Council of the League of Nations for a solution of the controversy which was brought this country to Panama to the verge of. The Government has indicated that it will not welcome arbitration from another source, declaring that Panama has not complied with decisions handed down by President Loubet of France and Chief Justice White of the United States, who passed on the merits of the controversy seven years ago. The frontier, Costa Rica is on the Costa Rican side of the frontier, and that of occupying the place Panama troops have invaded Costa Rican territory.

WASHINGTON, March 4.—A number of vessels of the special service squadron now in Panamanian waters probably will be ordered to the mouth of the Rio Grande River, Panama, to reinforce the force there. Rican troops have crossed into the disputed territory of Panama. It was said here to-night that between the Sinaloa River and Almirante are large banana plantations owned by the United Fruit Company.

Cable advice received by the Panama Legation here to-night told of the crossing of the Costa Rican troops and added that the Panamanian troops were withdrawing before them upon orders from Panama city. The Panama Government Legation officials said, had accepted the offer of the United States of its good offices to achieve a peaceful solution of the difficulty, and it was desired to commit no act that would endanger such a solution.

PANAMA PROTESTS ACTS OF COSTA RICA

Warning Sent Both Are Amenable to League.

PARIS, March 4.—Messages have been sent by the League of Nations Council to Panama and Costa Rica calling their attention to the fact that the two republics are members of the league and consequently must subscribe to its principles and obligations.

A few hours after the messages were sent and presumably before they arrived at their destinations the league received a cablegram from the Panamanian Government reporting several attacks upon Panamanian soldiers by regular troops of Costa Rica and protesting against "acts of violence committed by a member of the league." It said the Panamanian Government had accepted the good offices of the United States with a view to reaching a friendly solution of the dispute with Costa Rica.

SCHOONER REPORTED LOST.

BOSTON, March 4.—The wrecking and probable loss of the two-masted schooner Anna Laura, McKenna of New York, was announced in a cablegram to her owners by Capt. Davis to-day. She had 1,300 tons of coal which she had carried from Philadelphia. Vessel and cargo were valued at about \$150,000. All the crew are believed to have escaped.

ASKS HARDING TO BAR ALIEN SHIP OFFICERS

Neptune Association Seeks Jobs for U. S. Citizens

One of the first acts sought from President Harding is the cancellation of an executive order issued by President Wilson September 4, 1914, by which aliens were permitted to act as watch officers of vessels of the United States registered foreign ports. The Neptune Association of Licensed Masters and Mates, with about 5,000 members, adopted resolutions yesterday requesting this action in order to provide employment for American ship officers who are forced to work by aliens. It was urged that all posts be filled by aliens.

Although the order issued by President Wilson was to run only two years, it was continued because of the necessity of obtaining large numbers of officers to serve on Shipping Board vessels. The resolutions declare that the order should have been recalled at the time of the armistice.

EXPERIENCED TRAFFIC MANAGER.

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The defendant corporation, in its answer, alleged that during the contract negotiations Milton C. Quimby, an officer of the Virginia Shipbuilding Corporation, falsely and fraudulently represented himself to Marcus Erickson, president of the defendant corporation, as the man of greatest wealth. It charged that he represented himself as an officer of the Standard Oil Company and an associate on the most intimate terms with Charles W. Morse, chairman of the board of directors of the Virginia Shipbuilding Corporation.

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